

## **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

The Arkansas Department of Health will hold a public hearing on Thursday, September 9, 2004 at 2:00 p.m. in the Freeway Medical Tower, Suite 400, 5800 West Tenth Street, Little Rock, Arkansas, to allow interested persons to comment on proposed revisions to the Rules and Regulations for Hospice in Arkansas pursuant to Act 283 of 1983 as amended. Revisions are proposed in eleven major areas: (1) add standards for Inpatient Direct Care Hospice Facilities; (2) add Life Safety Code for Inpatient Direct Care Hospice Facilities; (3) add infection control section and specify requirements; (4) add patient rights and responsibilities; (5) change "certification" to "license;" (6) add pet therapy; (7) add employee health; (8) add complaint tracking; (9) change "Quality Assurance" to "Quality Improvement" and specify QI requirements; (10) specify physician service requirements; and (11) make aide and homemaker services requirements to identical with home health.

Copies of the proposed Rules and Regulations are available for public inspection and copying at the Arkansas Department of Health Division of Health Facilities Services, Freeway Medical Tower, Suite 400, 5800 West Tenth Street, Little Rock, Arkansas. The proposed Rules and Regulations are also available for inspection online through the Secretary of State website: [www.sosweb.state.ar.us](http://www.sosweb.state.ar.us) administrative rules link.

The public may submit written comments to: Renee Mallory, Leader, Health Facilities Services, Arkansas Department of Health, Freeway Medical Tower, Suite 400, 5800 West Tenth Street, Little Rock, Arkansas 72204 no later than 2:00 p.m. on September 9, 2004.